



Kentucky Personnel Cabinet
Office of the Secretary

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**Kentucky state government named one of America's best
adoption-friendly workplaces**

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Nov. 13, 2014) – Today, the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet announced the Commonwealth is ranked first on the 2014 Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces List. Kentucky is being recognized by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for its employee adoption benefits as compared to other government entities.

“We are again honored to be recognized by the Dave Thomas Foundation as a progressive employer, supportive of those families interested in adopting a child,” said Personnel Secretary Tim Longmeyer. “As the Commonwealth’s largest employer, we can set the example for others by providing work-life balance options, encouraging healthy habits and wellness, and supporting families who choose to adopt.”

The Commonwealth offers its employees up to \$5,000 in financial reimbursement when adopting a child and up to 12 weeks of family medical leave.

Since 2008, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption has compiled an annual list of the 100 Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces to honor employers who offer the best adoption benefits in the U.S. The rankings, compiled from an annual survey of U.S. employers, are determined by an analysis of each company’s adoption benefits, including the maximum financial reimbursement and the amount of paid leave provided for employees who adopt.

“We are incredibly excited and grateful to see a growing number of employers across the country provide adoption benefits for employees,” said Rita Soronen, President and CEO of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. “Adoption, and in particular adoption from foster care, is an important and increasingly common path to parenthood; we commend all of the employers across the country who recognize the importance of providing benefits to employees looking to expand their families through adoption.”

The eighth annual Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces List also helps increase foster care adoption awareness while celebrating businesses that support adoptive families. There are more than 100,000 children in the U.S. foster care system waiting to be adopted. Every year, more than 20,000 children in foster care turn 18 and age out

of the system without families.

To view the full list, visit <http://adoptionfriendlyworkplace.org>. For more about the Commonwealth's adoption benefit, visit <https://personnel.ky.gov/Pages/Adoptionbenefit.aspx>.

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